

AND so Wycombe Wanderers' F.A. Cup run is finally over. The club, who have recorded a new milestone in their 90 year history, finally bowed out of the competition on Tuesday night at Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough. The generous ovation they received from the crowd was a fitting end to four months' football that has captured the imagination of thousands.

Had anyone even mentioned the name of Middlesbrough on that sunny day at Marlow on September 14 in the first qualifying round, it would have been regarded as nothing but a joke. The Blues, however, worked their way through some marvellous matches to finish at Middlesbrough, having beaten Bournemouth on the way.

The club will have reaped themselves a bumper financial reward for their exploits, probably in the region of £12,000 from the nine matches, the bulk coming from Middlesbrough and Bournemouth. But apart from the cash, the success achieved by the club itself, Wycombe have also put the town of High Wycombe firmly on the map. They have won praise nationally from many sources as a club — praise that is surely richly deserved.

The amount of work involved with these big cup matches is often taken for granted by the general public but Wanderers deserve a big hand for their efficiency. Every one of the committee and treasurer Roger Lee in particular have put in long hours over the last few weeks, sometimes over six hours a day on top of their normal work. Every member of the club, from the chairman to the stewards and tea ladies, has done a tremendous job.

Wanderers — the pride of High Wycombe

Wycombe too, are full of praise for the public. They had full co-operation over ticket sales and on the two big days against Middlesbrough and Bournemouth.

All in all, Wycombe Wanderers Football Club have done themselves proud.